



2006 Flag-football
championship.
See Page 2C



Changes of
Command.
See Page 3A

Congratulations
Marne Family!
You are 100 days free
of fatal accidents.
See Page 2A

Marne Week
revisited.
See Page 5B



Reviewing 2006: Year of change

(Editors note: This issue looks back at the events and people that shaped the 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart and Hunter in 2006.)

Cheney visits Stewart

JULY 2006

Spc. Emily J. Wilsoncroft
3rd Inf. Div. Public Affairs

Vice President Dick Cheney visited Fort Stewart July 21 to thank Soldiers of the 3rd Infantry Division and the Georgia Army National Guard's 48th Brigade Combat Team for their service and sacrifice in the Global War on Terrorism.

As Cheney took his place on stage at Cottrell Field, thousands of 3rd Inf. Div. voices boomed the division's motto, "Rock of the Marne!"

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, 3rd Inf. Div. commander, introduced Cheney to the Soldiers, family members, and local Hinesville residents.

"Our vice president has demonstrated leadership and support to military members and families at every junction of his career," Lynch said. "He has led from the front during some of the toughest periods of our nation's history."

Stepping up to the podium, Cheney grinned and waved at the sea of gray-green Army Combat Uniformed Soldiers who

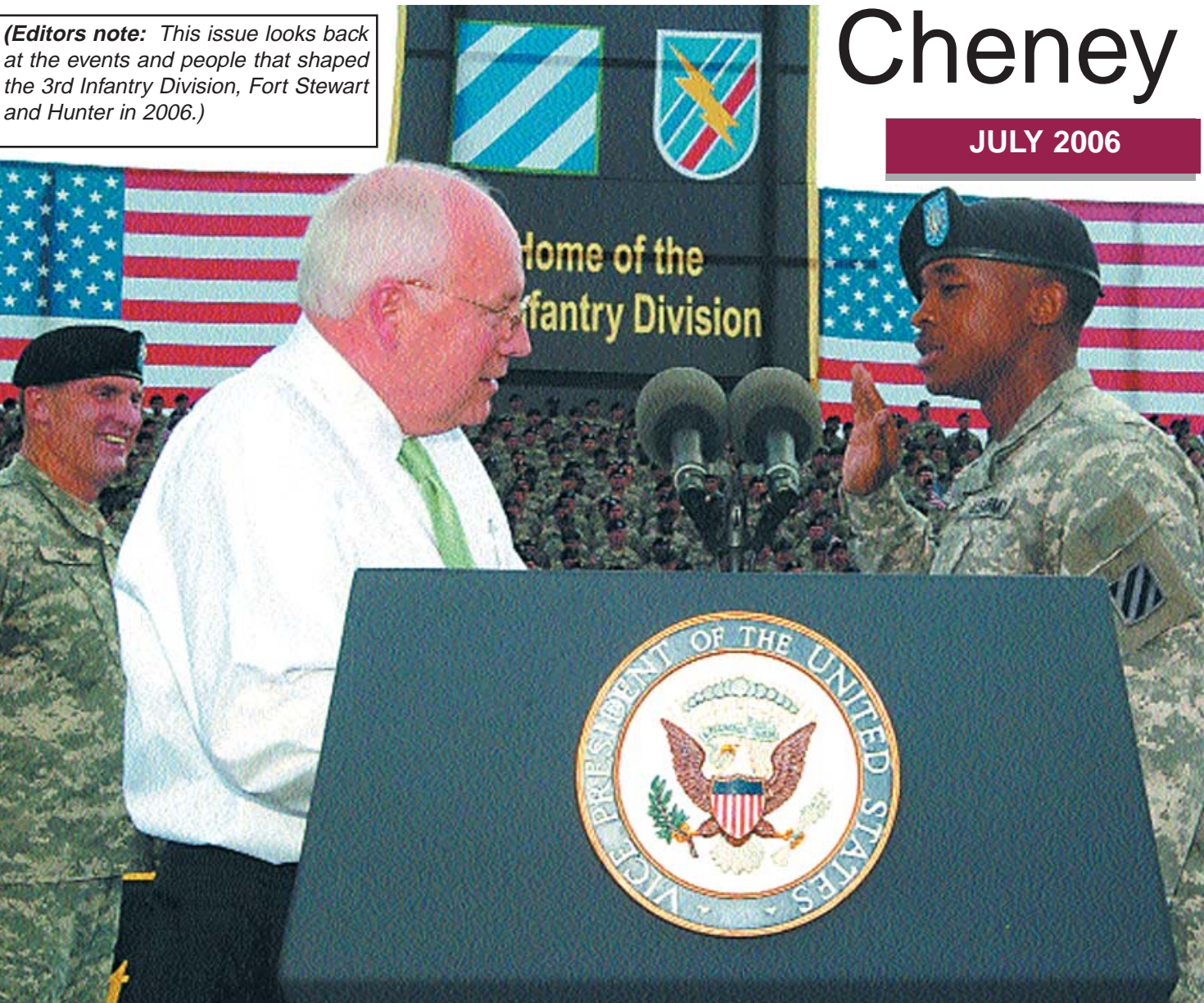
filled the field around him from every angle.

"It's great to be with all of you and to visit one of the finest military installations in America, Fort Stewart, in the great state of Georgia," he said.

Cheney's last visit to Stewart was 16 years ago as Secretary of Defense. During his July 21 speech, he praised Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield, calling the installations "a vital part of this country's defense."

"Soldiers and families of Fort Stewart are reminded every day that you live in a hard-working, patriotic part of the United States," Cheney said. "Throughout Coastal Georgia, you find remarkable community spirit for the military, and I know it means everything to our people in uniform and to their loved ones. I want to thank the cities of Hinesville, Savannah, and this entire region for standing behind our military families."

During his speech, Cheney praised the 3rd Inf. Div. as having one of the most successful combat records in the Army.



Sgt. Ben Brody

Vice President Dick Cheney re-enlists Cpl. Jerrod Fields, Trp. C, 3rd Sqdn, 7th Cav., July 21 during Cheney's trip to Fort Stewart. Fields was wounded by an improvised explosive device near Rustamiyah, Iraq in February 2005. His left leg was amputated below the knee, and he has been fitted with a prosthetic that enables him remarkable freedom of movement.

Casey, Petraeus tapped for key leadership roles

Special to the Frontline

Defense Secretary Robert Gates announced Jan. 5 recommendations to the President on key leadership positions.

"Today, I am announcing my recommendations to the President for nomination to key command and leadership positions in our nation's Armed Forces. America is truly blessed for the service of the outstanding men who are leaving their current posts, and for the superb officers who have stepped forward to take their place.

"Generals Pete Schoomaker and John Abizaid are retiring after decades of selfless and accomplished service to the nation.

"Gen. Schoomaker was in retirement during the summer of 2003 when he received a call from Secretary Donald Rumsfeld asking him to become the Army's 35th chief of staff. He would go on to direct the most effective and comprehensive transformation of the U.S. Army in decades — taking it from a garrison and division based service to an expeditionary force of more lethal, autonomous, and agile brigade combat teams. He

strengthened the Army's Guard and Reserve components with new funding, equipment, and training. As Chief of Staff, Gen. Schoomaker led the effort to inculcate the Army's 'warrior ethos' across all branches and all components. A special operations officer, he participated in the Desert One rescue mission in Iran and would go on to lead the U.S. Special Operations Command before his first retirement.

"As a result of Gen. Schoomaker's vision and leadership, the transformation of the Army is well on its way, to the benefit of our Soldiers, their families, and the safety of our nation. Every American is in Gen. Schoomaker's debt for his willingness to return to active service and embrace such a daunting assignment at a critical time in our nation's history. We all join in saying thanks to Pete Schoomaker for his service above and beyond the call of duty.

"There is no officer at this time better suited to be Army Chief of Staff than Gen. George Casey. A former Vice Chief of Staff, Gen. Casey has the unique experience of having served at the highest levels on both the institutional and operational side of the Army. As commander of Multi-National Forces-Iraq, he has

overseen the largest sustained ground forces operation by the U.S. military in a generation. Gen. Casey knows first hand the capabilities the U.S. Army must have to succeed in the complex and unconventional campaigns of the 21st Century. I am grateful for Gen. Casey's extraordinary service and sacrifice — he has been in Iraq for 30 straight months — and subject to Senate confirmation, he'll be superb as the next chief of staff of the U.S. Army.

"I am also recommending that Lt. Gen. Dave Petraeus be promoted and succeed General Casey as commander of Multi-National Forces-Iraq. Currently the commander of the Army's Combined Arms Center in Fort Leavenworth, Kan., Gen. Petraeus has long been considered one of the most dynamic and innovative leaders in the U.S. military. As commander of the 101st Airborne Division in Mosul — Iraq's third largest city. Gen. Petraeus oversaw a multifaceted program that within months established local government, restarted the local economy, and stood up local security forces. He would later stay on in Iraq to launch and lead the coalition's program to train and equip Iraq's army and police.

3rd ID makes news with Couric

Staff Sgt. Craig Zentkovich
3rd Inf. Div. Public Affairs

"I'm Katie Couric at Fort Stewart, Georgia."

And so began the live broadcast of the CBS Evening News on Monday at 6:30 p.m.

Couric, and more than 20 members of the CBS Evening News crew and staff, set up shop for the broadcast of the nightly news program in a maintenance bay of the 4th Battalion, 64th Armor motor pool.

"I'm so appreciative of the warm reception I've been given," Couric said. "I saw a sign coming in at the Shoney's in Hinesville that read 'Welcome Katie Couric.' I was touched."

When asked why CBS was broadcasting from Stewart, she said, "(CBS and I) felt something was getting lost in all the coverage of the war. I think people forget that there are a lot of brave, young people working hard to defend this country.

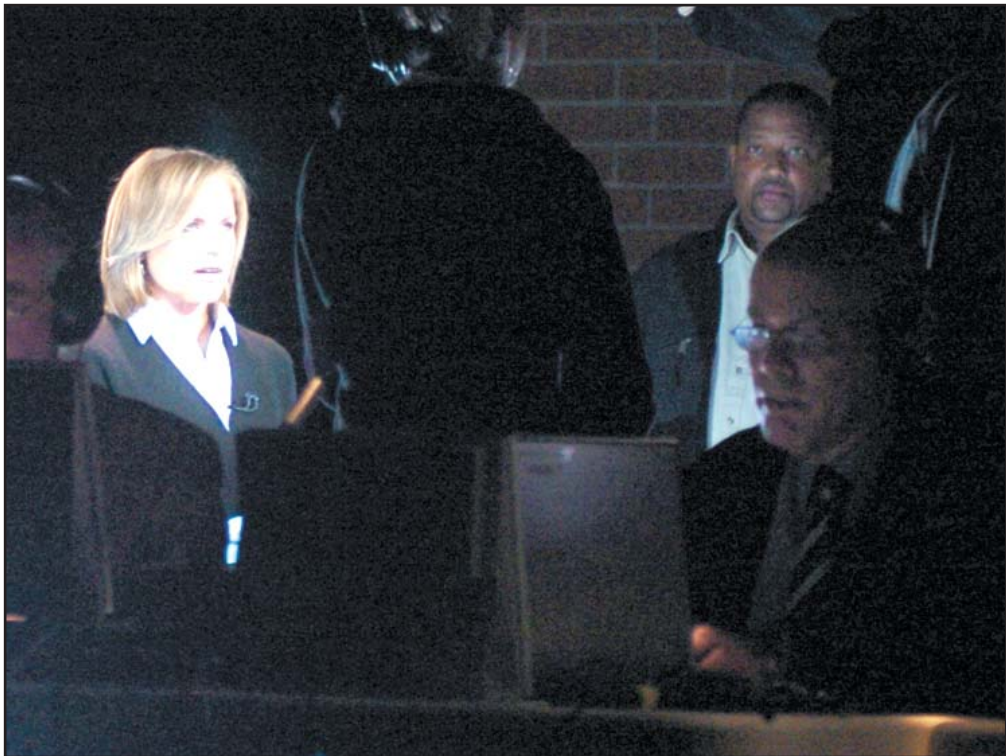
"Coverage has become a bit of a blur with everyone reporting the number of troops who have died, the roadside explosions and the

numbers of Iraqis killed every day — People can't get past the headlines."

The visit, which began Friday, included a segment on Warriors' Walk, where Couric had an opportunity to speak with Birgit and David Smith, widow and son of 3rd Inf. Div. Medal of Honor recipient Sgt. 1st Class Paul Smith. Later that afternoon, she conducted a one-on-one interview with Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, 3rd Inf. Div. commander, in a make-shift studio in the division headquarters' Audie Murphy conference room. The segments and interviews aired during the program Monday.

Couric is confident the newscast will impact some Americans, and said she and CBS News are dedicated to telling the Soldier's story. "Anything we can do to let America know who (Soldiers) are and what you do, we will — it's our responsibility."

The show ended at 7 p.m. Twenty minutes later, after posing for photographs with some Soldiers, Couric was on her way to the airport — flying back to New York to get some rest before she did it all over again Tuesday.



Staff Sgt. Craig Zentkovich

CBS anchorperson Katie Couric visited Soldiers and activities at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield Jan. 8 for a live news broadcast.

Marne 6 Sends Standup for tradition, standards

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch
3rd Inf. Div. commanding general

The custom of saluting is a time-honored tradition. It is an honor unique to our profession and demonstrates our professionalism.

A more junior Soldier is required to render a hand salute to a more senior officer when reporting or as a friendly greeting. Saluting is practiced by military members in all services and between allied forces.

Saluting is a skill that noncommissioned officers all taught us on our first days of military service. When it is done properly, it sets us apart from other professions.

When we fail to do it, we fall short of our standards and this is unacceptable. Now, the failure is seldom intentional. And most of the time, an on-the-spot correction can be made and some retraining is appropriate.

But sometimes there is no one around and a Soldier's failure goes uncorrected. Cars go speeding by while the flag is going up or coming down. Unfortunately, I have noted that some Soldiers fail to render the proper courtesy to our nation's flag.

We must each know the standard. We must practice the custom. And we must set an example and enforce the standard. That's why you have noticed that we are stopping traffic at certain times of the day.

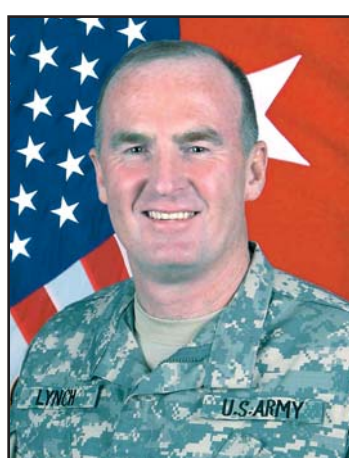
Generally, we all need to educate ourselves. Army Regulation 600-25, "Salutes, Honors, and Visitors of Courtesy" prescribes the proper courtesies that should be rendered by military personnel.

The flag is raised each day in a ceremony called Reveille. We hold Reveille at 6:30 am.

At Reveille, military personnel in uniform and in formation take their orders from the officer or NCO in charge. They present arms and order arms on the order of the officer in charge.

Military personnel in uniform, but not in formation, will face the flag or direction of music if the flag is not in view. On the first note of music military personnel render a hand salute and order arms on the last note of music.

Soldiers in civilian attire will stand at



attention, face the flag or direction of music. With the exception of women, hats are removed.

If you are in civilian clothing the salute is a hand over your heart. If a hat is worn it is held over the left shoulder with the right hand over your heart. The salute and position of attention are held until the final note of music for Reveille.

The ceremony for the lowering of our nation's flag is called Retreat and it is held each day at 5 p.m.

On post you will hear a prelude to the music for the Retreat ceremony. In formation Soldiers take their orders from the NCO or officer in charge. At the sound of the prelude to the music "To the Color" Soldiers in formation stand at parade rest. On the first note of "To the Color" or the National Anthem, Soldiers stand at attention and render a salute.

When in uniform or civilian clothes, and not in formation, Soldiers should stand at attention and face the flag or the sound of music if it is not visible for the prelude and music. You then ren-

der a salute until the final note of music, then order arms, and resume your activities.

Got it? Let's take a test.

A Soldier and his friend are at the drive through of a fast food restaurant on base. It's 16:59, one minute before 5 p.m. One Soldier is in uniform and the other is not.

There is a bugle playing. What does each man do?

"I'm going to put the car in park," says the driver. Both get out of the car. Both men stand at attention and face the sound of the music. Then, on the first note of "To the Color," both render a hand salute. One places his hand over his heart. The other renders a hand salute with his right hand properly positioned on his right brow.

On the final note of music, both come to order arms and continue through the drive through.

As they climbed back in the car, they each notice that the passengers of the other cars in line behind them followed their example.

This shouldn't come as a surprise. After all, this is the Marne Division and it was the right thing to do.

ROCK OF THE MARNE!

3rd ID pluses up for Iraq

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch
3rd Inf. Div. commanding general

On Wednesday night the President of the United States announced that additional US forces would deploy to Iraq. This announcement affects members of the 3rd Infantry Division.

Most directly affected by the President's announcement are the 2nd and 3rd BCTs. Our 1st BCT is already deploying. Others may also be deployed as we move forward and accomplish our objectives with the government and security forces of Iraq.

It should come as little or no surprise. Almost as soon as I took command of this magnificent Division I said that we would deploy again. I foresaw that as late as the Fall of 2007 this entire division could be deployed to Iraq.

Our training cycle for every Soldier and unit, our equipping and manning priorities, all part of what the Army calls its force generation model, have all been designed to support that timeline. With this

announced policy we are merely assured that our plans will be implemented.

We will not rush to failure. As units emerge from their mission rehearsal exercises they will be fully trained, certified to deploy.

I am fully confident in the leaders of this division, who, in large part are veterans of multiple deployments in the Global War on Terror.

Likewise, I am confident in the FRGs and support system on Fort Stewart, Hunter Army Airfield, and Fort Benning. When we climb aboard aircraft in the coming months, we will be fully prepared.

For many of us this is a return deployment. Some have deployed twice before with their units. While separation is never easy for families and Soldiers we are resolved to accomplish our assigned mission without delay. We will do so with full knowledge of our nation's and our community's support.

Take care and God bless.

Remember Martin Luther King Junior, Remember Safety

Charles A. Fitzpatrick,
Division Safety Manager

On January 15, we will honor the memory of our Nation's most influential civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King Junior.

His efforts resulted in legislation that helps ensure universal application of constitutional guarantees for all Americans, and we in the Marne Division are proud to join our fellow Americans in celebrating Dr. King's legacy.

This holiday provides opportunities for many of our Soldiers, civilians and their families to travel for various reasons.

In preparation, leaders are encouraged to remain engaged in Soldiers' plans for the long weekend, and take necessary precautions against possible hazards such as adverse winter conditions, fatigue, speeding, impaired/drunken drivers, aggressive driving, and vehicle failures.

Recently, the commander designated

Jan. 10 as a training holiday for obtaining 100-days without a Fatal Accident.

No doubt, this was a great victory for the Marne Team, and I applaud each and every Soldier within the division for their individual contributions and efforts toward achieving this goal.

My fervent prayer is that the count continues without interruption.

As we prepare for this holiday, let's approach it with the same vigor and determination as displayed over the previous three months.

Remember, "accidents don't just happen – they are predictable and preventable", and we must all remain alert, and not let down our guard against accidents.

Our focus and concentration is changing as we prepare to return to combat operations, but our commitment to safety and protecting our Soldiers remains steadfast.

A moment in history:

Marne Week, Pass and Review 2006





SUMMER 2006

Big changes (of command) for 3rd Inf Div during 2006

Marne Division welcomes Lynch

Sgt. Lorenda M. Morris
3rd Sust. Bde. Public Affairs

Third Infantry Division Soldiers, their families and members of the local community gathered at an indoor change-of-command ceremony at Newman Gym June 13 to welcome the new division commander.

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch succeeded Maj. Gen. William G. Webster Jr., who departed Marne Country for an assignment at U.S. Northern Command as the Director of Operations, J3.

"I am very proud to have been your commander and fellow Marne dog," said Webster in his farewell address. "These Soldiers have been absolutely magnificent."

Webster took command of 3rd Inf. Div. Sept. 26, 2003.

"The 3rd Infantry Division is losing an extraordinarily talented warrior and Soldier as its commander," said Lt. Gen. John R. Vines,

XVIII Airborne Corps commander.

The ceremony was originally scheduled to take place on Cottrell Field, but tropical storm Alberto pushed the ceremony indoors.

Vines praised Lynch's command experience, organizational prowess and commitment to the mission and his Soldiers.

"I am indeed humbled by the selection to become Marne Six," Lynch said. "I pledge to do my very best to take care of these magnificent Soldiers and their families."

During the ceremony, Lynch recognized his new division command sergeant major, Command Sgt. Maj. John Calpena, who replaces Command Sgt. Maj. William Grant.

Lynch thanked Webster for his outstanding service. He went on to address his new Soldiers saying, "You have accomplished so much, but there is indeed so much more to do. Our nation needs us and we will be up to the task."

Sharon Bass

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch passes the colors to 3rd Inf. Div. Command Sgt. Maj. John Calpena after taking command of the division during a change of command ceremony at Newman Gym June 13..



STEWART GARRISON

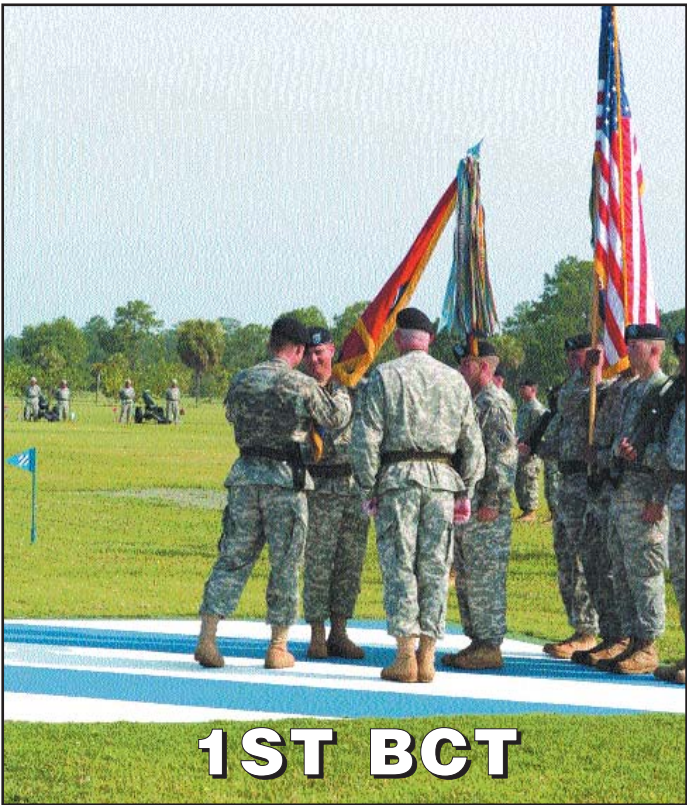
Above: Col. Todd Buchs (left) accepts the installation unit colors from 3rd Inf. Div. commander Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, assuming command of the Fort Stewart garrison from former garrison commander Col. John Kidd June 28.

Below: Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, 3rd Inf. Div. commander, far left, hands the Combat Aviation Brigade colors to incoming commander Col. Daniel Ball from outgoing brigade commander Col. Ronald Tuggle at Hunter June 29.



AVN. BDE.

Nancy Gould



1ST BCT

Spc. Ricardo Branch

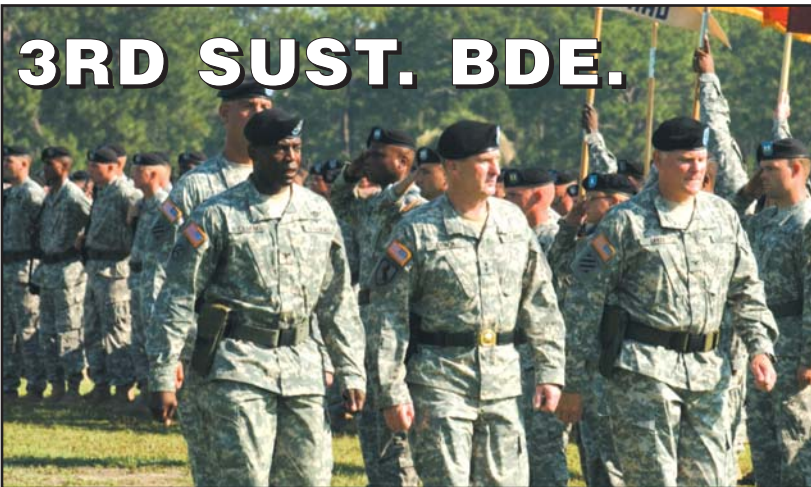
Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, 3rd Inf. Div. commander, passes the 1st Brigade Combat Team colors to Col. John W. Charlton, incoming brigade commander June 20.



3RD BCT

Courtesy photo

Col. Wayne Grigsby Jr., commander of 3rd Brigade Combat Team, leads his troops in formation for the first time June 22 at York Field, Fort Benning, Ga.



3RD SUST. BDE.

Sgt. Lorenda M. Morris



2ND BCT

Spc. Jimmy D. Lane

Maj. Gen. William G. Webster Jr., former 3rd Inf. Div. commander, passes 2nd Brigade Combat Team's colors to incoming commander Col. Terry R. Ferrell June 20.



4TH BCT

Spc. Dan Balda

Above: Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, 3rd Inf. Div. commander, passes the 4th Brigade Combat Team colors to brigade commander Col. Thomas S. James June 28.

Left: Col. Darrell K. Williams, incoming commander for 3rd Sustaining Brigade troops the line with 3rd Inf. Division Commander Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, and the brigade's outgoing commander Col. Brian R. Layer during a change of command ceremony July 6.

Legal: Tax refund loans, deal or no-deal

Capt. Michael Brown
Legal Assistance

As tax season approaches, the number one question becomes, “How fast can I receive my tax refund?”

As always, there are companies seeking to appease our desire for fast cash by filing our taxes for us and providing a tax refund loan.

The slogans businesses use are familiar, — “With e-filing, you will normally receive your income tax refund within ten to fourteen days or longer if you file by mail, but with our expedited tax loan service you can get your money within days.”

Although this sounds great, there is a catch. These services come at a price.

As consumers, you must understand the cost of these services and the options available to you.

What is a tax refund loan? You hire a company to com-

plete and file your tax return and to issue you a loan for the amount of your tax refund, minus fees, within two to three business days. Your refund from the IRS is sent to a bank account set up by the lender and your loan is repaid.

The price of tax refund loans is often high – very high. The average time it takes the IRS to electronically post a refund into your bank accounts is ten days. Therefore, tax refund loans are for an extremely short period of time.

The average fee for a refund under \$2,000 equates to an annual percentage rate of 222.5 percent according to the Consumer Federation of America and the National Consumer Law Center.

Let me give you an example. If you have a refund this year of \$2,000 with a four percent charge and \$40 handling fee, you will pay \$120. A \$2,000 loan for 10 days that costs you \$120 averages out to be approximately 216 percent annually.

Twelve million taxpayers paid over \$900 million in fees and interest in the United States last year, to get their refunds a little faster. We know credit card interest rates exceeding 20 percent is high, so why would we get a loan for more than 200 percent?

How do you avoid paying these excessive interest rates? You can go to military one source's website, which is www.militaryonesource.com.

The military has provided a free service for those who want to file their own tax return electronically through this website.

In addition, you can come to the Marne/Hunter Tax Center where a trained staff will help you prepare your tax returns and file them electronically for you free.

You work hard for your money, so do not pay an excessive amount of money for a Tax Refund Loan. There will be another article next week detailing the Marne and Hunter Army Airfield Tax center operation.



"My Soldier and Me Ball"

Open to all ranks.
Saturday, Jan. 20
5 to 8 p.m.
Club Stewart

Formal
Dress

Pictures
and Prizes

Dinner
and
Dancing

\$16 per Soldier and 1st child, \$8 for each additional child.
Pay at the door.

RSVP NLT Jan. 17 to Christina Anthony at 368-5591 or email:
christinaa@ymcaofcoastalga.org



Wild Wild West Night

Saturday Feb. 3
Club Stewart
6:30 - 10:30 p.m.

Buffet available for an additional charge

Cost \$7.00 at the door

\$5.00

Silent & Live Auction
Blackjack
Poker
Line Dancing



18 years & older

Any questions please call D'Lyn Hardy at 368-8762 or Paula Payne at 368-8890

Marne Voices Speak Out

What is your most memorable 2006 moment?

“In June, I had my 20th wedding anniversary and took garrison command of the Army’s greatest installation.”

Col. Todd Buchs
Fort Stewart Garrison Commander



“On January 2, when I stepped back on American soil from my second deployment to Iraq.”

Staff Sgt. Daisy Martinez
Co. A, 703rd BSB



“The day I proposed to my fiancée, Kaytrina - and she accepted.”

Sergeant Maj. Ray Curtis
3-69 Armor



“Spending Christmas with the whole family in America’s Georgia - at my mother’s house.”

Chief Warrant Officer 3
Debroah Barthell
3rd Sustainment Bde



“The birth of my son, Liam. He was born Dec. 30, here at Fort Stewart.”

Sgt. Graham Giesen
MEDDAC



“When I had to run the town hall meeting in September. It was really scary running it live for the first time.”

George Story
Visual Information Specialist, DOIM



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'Wings of the Marne' named top unit

MAY 2006

Frontline Staff

The 3rd Infantry Division's Combat Aviation Brigade was recognized in May 2006 as the Outstanding Aviation Unit of the Year for 2005 by the Army Aviation Association of America.

The Combat Aviation Brigade, known as the "Wings of the Marne," is the Army's first modular, fully functional combat aviation brigade to be deployed to a combat zone. The newly-transformed brigade arrived in Iraq in January 2005 as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom III. The brigade's new structure enabled it to conduct 24-hour operations for an indefinite period of time.

Some of the remarkable achievements of the brigade include 26,707 combat missions, including 13,455 AH-64 Apache missions, flown in support of ground forces; 289 air assaults and raids; and more than 3,760 aeromedical evacuation missions transporting approximately 4,900 patients to combat surgical hospitals. The brigade airlifted more than 194,000 personnel and moved in excess of 12 million pounds of cargo throughout the Iraqi theater. The personnel movements equated to keeping approximately 10,000 convoys off the roads and greatly reducing the risks to Soldiers as they moved throughout the combat zone.

The brigade flew in excess of 80,000 combat hours, the highest ever achieved by an Army aviation brigade or equivalent task force.

In addition to the overall brigade receiving recognition for its accomplishments, several of its units and individuals were also recognized for outstanding achievement during the year-long deployment.

Hunter Army Airfield's 1st Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment was recognized as the Outstanding Active Duty Aviation Unit of the Year for 2005 by the Army Aviation Association of America.

Over the course of the year, 1/3 Avn. "Vipers" flew more than 22,000 combat hours — more than any Apache unit in history. They flew more than 2,000 missions in and around Baghdad, performing a full spectrum of combat operations which included close combat attacks in support of the ground forces, area and ground security.

The Lt. Gen. Ellis D. Parker Award for 2005 was awarded to 4th Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment. The Parker Award is given to aviation units based on achievements in the areas of leadership, safety, training and maintenance.

"Marne Assault," as 4-3 Avn. calls itself, was the first aviation unit to conduct a battalion-sized air assault with Iraq Army Soldiers. Through more than 20,000 combat hours, transporting over 65,000 people, 4-3 Avn. maintained a 100 percent mission launch rate and an 85 percent aircraft operational readiness rate.

Company D, 1st Battalion, 58th Aviation Regiment of Hunter was awarded the Air Traffic Services Company of the Year, and Facility of the Year for Washington Army Heliport in Baghdad.

Several individuals were recognized for their outstanding

service while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Roger Graf, Company A, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment, was recognized as the Army Aviator of the Year for 2005. Graf flew more hours than any other aviator, flying more than 1,100 hours and over 200 combat sorties, 55 percent were flown at night.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 John McCann of 3rd Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment, was recognized as the Aviation Trainer of the Year for 2005. McCann developed a sustainment gunnery, emergency procedures and standards program focused on combat performance training while in an environment with an operational tempo rate of 1,900 hours per month. His training programs furthered the efforts of the battalion providing safe, effective, and flexible support to ground maneuver forces.

Staff Sgt. Byron Montgomery, Company A, 603rd Aviation Support Battalion was recognized for his performance.

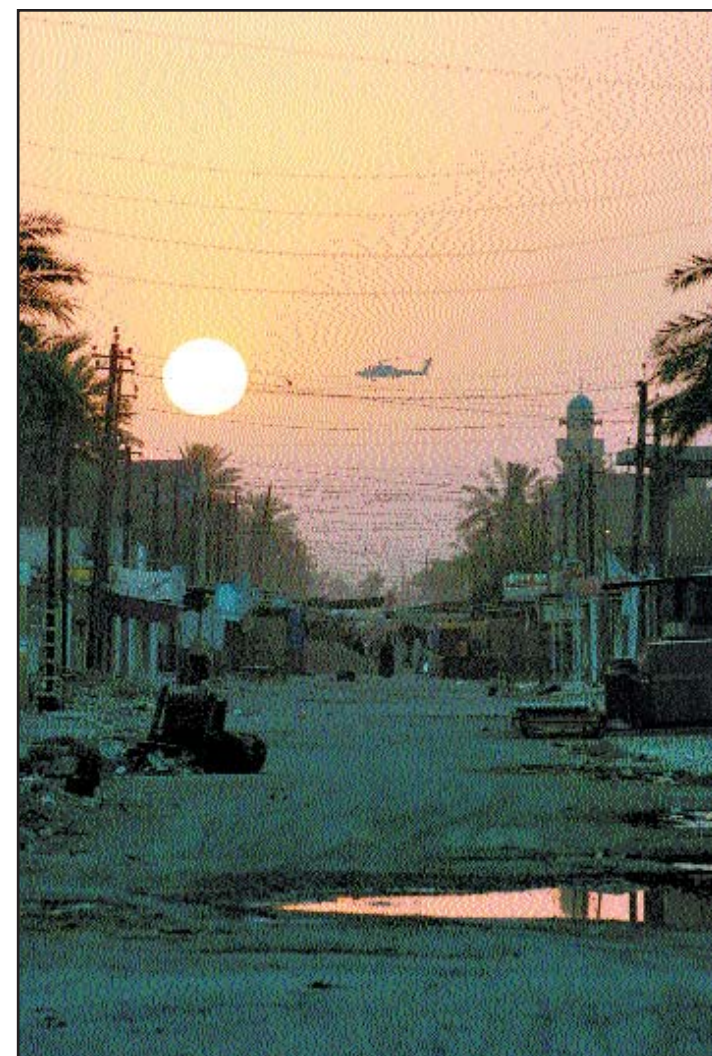
Montgomery performed 30 500-hour aircraft inspections during an 11-month period which allowed the attack battalions to maintain their critical high operational tempos in support of the ground forces.

Spc. Timothy Johnson, Company D, 1st Battalion, 58th Aviation Regiment, was recognized as the Air Traffic Controller of the Year for 2005 for his efforts.

These accomplishments are just a few examples of the dedication and professionalism demonstrated by all the Soldiers of the Aviation Brigade.

Sgt. Ben Brody

An Apache Helicopter patrols the skies over Iraq in 2005. The 3rd Infantry Division's Combat Aviation Brigade flew more than 26,000 combat missions and moved more than 12 million pounds of cargo and was named the Outstanding Aviation Unit of the Year for 2005.





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Ask the Judge

Contracts and the three-day rule

Capt. Brendan R. Cronin
Legal Assistance Attorney

Hey Judge, I just signed this contract for buying a car, how do I get out of actually having to buy the car?

One of the biggest myths on post is the idea a Soldier can get out of any contract they sign due to a three-day rule. This is untrue. Once you sign a contract to buy a car, lease an apartment, rent furniture, or put a new banging stereo in your "ride," you are obligated to follow the terms you've agreed to.

Actually, I haven't been completely honest with you loyal readers. There is a way to get out of a sales contract you have signed within three days. However, it is in very limited circumstances and very limited situations. When a door-to-door salesperson comes to your door and you sign a sales contract for windows, siding, cable, cell phones, magazines, or anything else, you can revoke the contract within three business days. This is known as the "Three-Day Cooling Off Period for Door-to-Door Sales."

The Cooling Off Period for Door-to-Door Sales is authorized by the Federal Trade Commission. The FTC protects the consumer from unfair and deceptive acts and practices. The rule gives the consumer the unilateral right to rescind a sales contract for three business days following a door-to-door sale. The FTC believes any solicitation at one's apartment or house creates undue influence or pressure on the consumer.

In general, a consumer does not need any reason at all to rescind the contract. In fact, the consumer's right to rescind may be exercised even if the seller has performed the service before cancellation. For example, a home improvement contractor performs right away, the consumer cancels, and the builder can only take back material, but cannot charge for the service.

Now, to take advantage of the three-day rule, you need to know what a door-to-door sale is: A sale, lease, or rental of consumer goods or services equaling \$25 or more by personal solicitation at your house or apartment or at a location that is not the primary place of business of the seller. The rule does NOT apply if you call the seller or go to the seller's place of business.

There are a number of exclusions in a door-to-door sales situation. One of these exclusions is pre-arranged visits after initial contact at a seller's regular place of business. For example, if you went to Sears and saw a kiosk for vinyl siding and the person at the counter makes an appointment for the sales representative to come to your house, then the rule does not apply because it is a pre-arranged visit. Additionally, buyer-initiated contracts for an emergency need, solicitations by mail or telephone, or buyer-initiated visits for repairs of personal property, all fall under exclusions to the rule. The sale or rental of real property, insurance, or securities and automobile tent sales/auctions and sales at craft fairs are included in the rules exclusions.

The seller is required to meet certain contract necessities or the consumer can take legal action against him. First, the seller must provide you, the buyer, and a fully completed contract for you to retain. You must be given an oral and written notice of the right to rescission, this means one easily, detachable, fully completed copy for the consumer to retain for his records and one copy for consumer to send to seller to cancel the contract. In addition, the contract must include the date of the transaction, the name and address of the seller, the notice of the right to rescind must be in close proximity to the signature block of the consumer, the notice must be in bold print and in the same language as that used during the sales presentation. Furthermore, the seller must orally inform the consumer of the

right to rescind, the seller must not attempt to misrepresent the right to rescind, and the notice need not conform exactly to FTC-recommended language. In fact, the language of the consumer's rescission may be as simple as:

*"Dear Seller,
I rescind this contract. Thank you and have a nice day.
Sincerely, Buyer."*

To make a valid rescission, the consumer must mail or deliver written notice to seller before midnight of the third day following the transaction. The rule means any form, either the form provided by the seller or any written form, even writing on the back of an MRE box: "Dear Seller, I cancel, Love, Buyer." If the buyer rescinds, then the buyer must return any goods already delivered or follow the seller's instruction regarding the return of the goods, but the return is at the seller's expense. However, if the seller fails to pick up the goods within 20 days, then the consumer may retain the goods without further obligation to the seller.

Remember, you cannot cancel or rescind any contract you sign. If you plan to buy a car or rent an apartment, take someone else with you, to give you an unbiased, neutral opinion. Additionally, ask the seller for a copy of the contract and bring it in to the Legal Assistance Office for an attorney to review. If the seller is unwilling to give you a copy of the contract, it should be a big red flag that there could be something unfair in the contract. To take advantage of the cooling off period three-day rule, you must have signed a contract in a door-to-door sales situation. When in a door-to-door sales situation, you can cancel a contract you have entered into within three days.

For more information and a chance to ask questions about this article be sure to attend "Brown Bag with the JAG" in the Fort Stewart Legal Assistance Office at 11:30 a.m. Jan. 18.



Justice Served

Military Justice

On Dec. 15, **Spc. Warren O. Abernathy**, 3/7 Inf., was convicted at general court-martial: wrongful possession of marijuana with intent to distribute, wrongfully carrying a firearm during a drug trafficking crime; reduction to E-1, four years' confinement, bad conduct discharge.

Pvt. Mario Fernandez, 603rd ASB, was convicted at general court-martial: fleeing from apprehension, larceny, unlawful entry; reduction to E-1, 16 months' confinement, bad conduct discharge.

On Dec. 28, **Spc. Joshua D. Haynes**, 3rd BSB, convicted at special court-martial: AWOL, wrongful use of cocaine and marijuana; reduction to E-1, five months' confinement, bad conduct discharge.

On Dec. 28, **Pvt. Jessica A. Plumptre**, 603d ASB, was convicted at special court-martial: wrongful use of cocaine; reduction to E-1, 60 days' confinement.

On Jan. 5, **Pvt. Dwayne R.H. Cain**, 92nd Eng Bn, was convicted at special court-martial: failure to be at appointed place of duty, wrongful use of cocaine and marijuana, prior wrongful indulgence of intoxicating liquor; reduction to E-1, four months' confinement, bad conduct discharge.

Adverse Administrative Actions

OMPF Filed General Officer Memoranda of Reprimand for DUI Offenses

Sergeant, 385 MP Co., BAC .086

Private, 87 CSB, BAC .142

Sergeant, STB, BAC .088

Specialist, 385th MP Co., BAC .176

Sergeant First Class, 260 QM Bn., BAC .164

Private First Class, 87th CSB, BAC .190

Staff Sergeant, 3/7 Inf. BAC .184

Private First Class, 2/7 Inf., BAC .131

Private, 2/7 Inf., BAC .131

Specialist, 1 Bn 75 Ranger, BAC .106

Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield

Stewart Briefs

Spiritual Luncheon

The 3rd Infantry Division and Fort Stewart Unit Ministry Team will hold a Spiritual Fitness Luncheon Jan. 19 at 11:30 a.m. at Club Stewart. The guest speaker is FORSCOM chaplain, Chap. (Col.) Sonny Moore. A suggested donation is \$5 at the door. See your unit chaplain for tickets. Seating is limited and tickets are required.

CG Golf Scramble

The Commanding General's Golf Scramble date has changed to Jan. 23. Show time is 8:45 a.m. with a 9 a.m. shotgun start. Prize presentation is upon completion of the event around 1 p.m.. The entry fee is \$30 for non-members and \$25 for members. Early registration is recommended. Added event: \$5 for two mulligans. The scramble will field the first 25 four-person teams. For more information, call 767-2370.

All Ranks "Soldier and Me" Ball

Club Stewart will host an All Ranks "Soldier and Me" Ball 5-8 p.m. Jan. 20. Tickets are \$16 for Soldier and first child, an

\$8 for each additional child.

The occasion is formal dress and will feature dinner and dancing, pictures and prizes. For more information call 369-5591 or email: christinaa@ymcaofcoastalga.org.

MWR "Aerobic-Thon"

An Aerobic-thon will be held 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jan. 13 at Newman Fitness Center.

The event will feature Hip-Hop, Kick Boxing, Step, Pilates, Tai-Chi, Salsa, nutrition consultation, body fat analysis, on-site personal trainer, blood pressure readings and more. For more information, call 767-3033.

Free Swimming Lessons For Soldiers

Sign up now for swimming lessons at Newman Pool on Mondays and Thursdays beginning Jan. 22. Only four Soldiers allowed per class. For more information or to register, call 767-3034.

Vehicle Registration Office has Moved

The Vehicle Registration Office has moved to Room 2064A on the second floor of the Soldier Service Center, Bldg. 253 on Pony Soldier Road.

ID Card Section Closure

The identification card sections at Fort Stewart (Soldier Service Center & Mower Processing Center) plus the ID Card Section at HAAF will close March 26 and 27 for a system upgrade. For more information call 767-4909.

PWOC Meets Wednesdays in 2007

Protestant Women of the Chapel meetings will be moving to Wednesdays in January. The group meets from 9:30 a.m. to noon at Vale Chapel.

Spring semester will begin with fellowship and celebration and all new Bible studies.

Childcare is provided for those registered with the Child Development Center. For more information contact Tammy Owens at 448-2296.

Wild Wild West Night

The Officers Spouse club sponsors a Wild Wild West Night, 6:30 - 10:30 p.m. Feb. 3 at Club Stewart for adults 18 and older.

The cost is \$7 at the door with \$5 pre-sale tickets. The evening will feature silent and live auction, blackjack, poker, line dancing

and a lot of fun. A buffet is available for an additional charge. For more information, call D'Lyn hardy at 368-8762.

Hunter Briefs

CAB Falcon Week

Falcon Week is coming in March. The Combat Aviation Brigade will hold a three-day Falcon Week, starting March 13.

The festivities will include a triathlon, softball, bowling and basketball tournaments, and a golf scramble over the 1st two days.

The event will culminate March 15 at 6 p.m. with the CAB's Spring Ball at the Marriott Savannah Riverfront Hotel. Contact the CAB personnel officer for more information at 315-3755.

Volunteers Needed for Tax Center

In preparation for the 2006 Tax Season, the Tax Centers are looking for volunteers to staff the VITA Tax Centers at Fort Stewart/HAAF.

This opportunity can provide good training and experience for future jobs. For more information, call 767-1055.



GMH
MILITARY HOUSING

GMH Military Housing would like to congratulate all of their winners of the Home Decorating Contest and thank them for sharing their Christmas spirit. The residents did an amazing job of turning their homes into Christmas wonderlands!

GMH would also like to extend their thanks to the ACS Mayors Program for judging the contest. In addition, a big thank you goes to the MWR staff for allowing GMH to present the winners their awards in conjunction with the hayride and events held on Monday, Dec. 18.

Again, thank you and congratulations to all of the winners!!
Happy Holidays from GMH Military Housing!

Fort Stewart

The Hahner and Bucks Families
(South Bryan Village)
The Shelley Family (Southern Oaks)
The McCraw Family (Marne Court)
The Helms and Ault Families
(North Bryan Village)
The Gilbert Family (Marne Homes)
The Titus Family (Liberty Woods)
The Long Family (Marne Woods)
The Dagel Family (Marne Terrace)
The Higgins Family (Isenhower Terrace)

Hunter Army Airfield

The Stidley Family (New Savannah)
The Alvarez Family (Wilson Acres)
The Gillette Family (New Callaway)
The Brown Family (New Gannam)

Grand Prize Winners The Lynn Family



Grand Prize Winners

The Murphy Family (Southern Oaks)

ATTENTION ACTIVE MILITARY AND SPOUSES

Participate in a Focus Group!!!

We want to know what YOU think about the various mental health services available on your installation!

What value do these services bring to you and the military community?

Do the current services meet the needs of your fellow service members and families?

Do you have suggestions for improving these services?



You need not have used any mental health services to participate. Any information you provide will be kept completely anonymous and confidential. Discussion groups will be conducted by BearingPoint, an independent consulting firm, and will last 1 hour. Groups will meet noon to 1 p.m., Jan. 24 and 25 at Fort Stewart and 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Jan. 24 at Hunter Army Airfield.

For more information, to include location, please email sara.bentley@bearingpoint.com or call Sara Bentley at 703.747.3599 | Mobile: 412.848.6323.



Civilian employee news, jobs

Competitive professional development, NSPS paypool funding

The fiscal 2007 Army Civilian Training, Education and Development System Training Catalog has

been published. We have changed the way we manage the Career Program 10 Competitive Professional Development University training application process by eliminating the once-a-year application deadline in favor of quarterly application cut-off dates. We believe this new process will provide our CP-10 community seeking to improve their professional competencies with greater access to financial support.

Submission of nominations for the FY 07 academic year funding support must be received prior to the remaining quarterly cut off dates of Feb. 16, May 18, or Aug. 17. Application and selection procedures are outlined in the ACTEDS catalog at <http://cpol.army.mil/library/train/catalog/ch03cp10.html>.

Submit application packages through your chain of command and Army command to:

US Army Civilian Human Resources Agency

ATTN: DAPE-CP-MAT (Antoinette Lewis)

5445 Student Drive
Building 5445, Room 201
Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005-5200

NSPS Paypool Funding

The Army NSPS Web site <http://cpol.army.mil/library/general/nsps/about-paypool.html> has posted a tutorial on pay pools to help employees learn about the new system. This tutorial can be accessed by selecting the heading "All about NSPS" on the menu bar of the Web site and then selecting the heading "Pay Pool Management."

NSPS has many built in protections to insure that civilian pay dollars previously spent under the General Schedule will continue to be applied to civilian pay after the implementation of NSPS.

The first protection is found in the law authorizing NSPS. The law [5 USC 9902(e)(4)] requires that the Department of Defense allocate essentially the same amount of civilian pay

after NSPS as it did before NSPS given the same number and mix of employees. The protection is provided through fiscal 2008.

Thereafter, the law requires DoD to develop a formula to ensure, as a whole, employees are not disadvantaged in terms of the overall amount of pay available as a result of conversion to NSPS.

Another protection is embedded in DoD funding guidance for pay pools. This guidance ensures that money previously spent for pay increases that no longer exist under NSPS [e.g., within-grade increases, quality step increases, and promotions to grades that no longer exist (in-band promotions)] continue to be spent for civilian base pay increases under NSPS. This ensures that general schedule pay increase money will not be reallocated to hire more employees or to fund programs outside of civilian pay.

DoD advances this protection by establishing a funding floor for performance-based salary increases. This funding floor reflects the amount of money Army has historically spent for WIGIs, QSIIs, and in-band promotions under the General Schedule.

Job announcements

Tax assistant Coordinator, Income tax preparation clerk

Location - Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield Installation Legal Offices

Opening date - now

Closing date - Jan. 23

First cut-off date - Jan. 16

How to apply

- 1 - Go to <http://cpol.army.mil>
- 2 - Employment
- 3 - Create/send Resume in RESUMIX system
- 4 - self-nominate

Contact Jackie Johnson-Brunson at 912-767-8671 for more information

ARMY CIVILIAN CORPS CREED

I am an Army Civilian - a member of the Army Team

I am dedicated to our Army, our Soldiers and Civilians

I will always support the mission

I provide stability and continuity during war and peace

I support and defend the Constitution of the United States and consider it an honor to serve our Nation and our Army

I live the Army values of Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage

I am an Army Civilian

Garrison team wins third ACOE Award

MAY 2006

Pat Young
Frontline Staff

WASHINGTON — The Army Communities of Excellence and the Commander in Chief's Installations of Excellence awards were awarded May 4 and 5 to Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield at the Pentagon.

Two ceremonies were hosted by the Department of the Army for the occasion. The Department of Defense featured speakers who included Kenneth J. Krieg, under secretary of defense, acquisition, technology and logistics; Dr. Craig E. College, deputy assistant chief of staff for installation management; Philip W. Grone, deputy under secretary of defense for installations and environment; and Pete Geren, under secretary of the Army.

The Army Communities of Excellence and the Commander in Chief's Installations of Excellence programs allow installations to share good practices in an effort to improve the Army's collective performance.

"These efforts are essential in transferring installation management practices, improving service delivery and advancing the well-being of employees and war fighters," College said.

Several speakers commented on how more efficient installations meant a more effective fighting force.

"Installations are the home of our people and the home of our combat power," Krieg said. "Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield are role models of the principles, values and processes contained in the Army Performance Improvement Criteria."

"Installations are essential to maintaining the world's premier army," Geren said. "They serve as flagships of readiness, supporting Soldiers where they live, work, train, mobilize and deploy. They enhance power projection and serve as integral components of a battle space that extend from the

installation to the fox hole.

They ensure the quality of life that our Soldiers and their family so richly deserve."

Col. John Kidd, former garrison commander for Stewart and Hunter attributed the success of installation to the efforts of the Soldiers and the civilian workforce; however, he also acknowledges the support of the surrounding communities.

"Fort Stewart is a great place; but we didn't get there by ourselves," Kidd said. "Our relationship to coastal Georgia is very important to us. During the long deployments for the 3rd Infantry Division, we couldn't do what we did for their families and the Soldiers who stay behind, without their support as well as that of the rest of Georgia."

Kidd pointed out the strong relationships with Liberty, Chatham, Long, Evans, Tattnall and Bryan counties and other surrounding cities and communities were critical to the success of Stewart and Hunter.

"Their assistance in taking care of our families and helping with issues like housing, schools and roads – we couldn't get by without them," Kidd said.

The mayor of Hinesville, Thomas Ratcliffe, traveled with the Stewart and Hunter representatives in a show of support for the award winners.

"We're very proud of Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield," Ratcliffe said. "This award reflects on their commitment in servicing the families and Soldiers of the 3rd Infantry Division. Their success comes from applied processes and attention to detail. It's a great achievement when you can deploy the division on time and under budget."

Senator Saxby Chambliss of Georgia visited with Col. Kidd and the Stewart and Hunter delegates during the Washington visit and commented on their success.



Sharon Bass

Soldiers recite their oath of citizenship at Stewart's Woodruff Theater May 31.

MAY 2006

Spc. Emily J. Wilsoncroft
Frontline staff

For 42 Soldiers and one Navy sailor, May 31 was more than just the day before payday — it was the day they became full-fledged citizens of the nation they've already sworn to defend.

The servicemembers gathered in Fort Stewart's Woodruff Theater to raise their right hands once again, this time to swear sole allegiance to the United States and officially claim it as their country.

"As Soldiers and sailors in these armed forces, you understand more than most what citizenship really means," said Maj. Gen. William G. Webster Jr., former 3rd Infantry Division commander, as he addressed Stewart's newest Americans. "We must have informed citizens who participate in democracy."

"You've already been tested on U.S. knowledge," Webster continued. "We

expect you to continue with that education, and remember to participate in your country — get out and vote!"

After reciting the oath, the newly-naturalized servicemembers were each handed a certificate and a folded flag, and President George W. Bush spoke to them in a video address.

"This land is a nation of immigrants, enriched by different cultures," Bush said. "You now go forward as citizens of a free nation."

Sgt. Lovell M. Augustin, a Company C, 3rd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment Soldier who originally hailed from St. Lucia in the West Indies, said he was "relieved" to finally be able to call the U.S. his country.

"It was a long process," he said.

The process could have been much longer, though — immigrants serving in America's military during wartime are given the chance to expedite their path to citizenship.

"The choice to defend one's country is respected at the highest level," said Rosemary L. Melville, district director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, during the naturalization ceremony. "On behalf of a grateful nation, thank you for your service and your sacrifice."

Spc. Koko Barrigah, a water treatment specialist with Fort Benning's 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, said she came to the U.S. for a better life.

"My sister was already here," said the former citizen of Togo. "I was really happy to take the oath and become a citizen."

Many of those who were naturalized have already served in combat at least once, some twice, and for one Soldier, three times, Webster said.

"These are some of America's best," he said, "and it's wonderful now to welcome them in as new citizens of the United States."

Stewart DOL package team proves tops in DoD

MAY 2006

Directorate of Logistics

The Fort Stewart Directorate of Logistics Packaging Team received the Defense Packaging Achievement Award in 2006.

This award is given to an individual or group of individuals who work in the packaging field (limited to Wage Grade/Wage Leader or Wage Supervisor) and have achieved exceptional performance or developed innovative ways to improve the quality of customer service.

“My storage and package section has con-

sistently met or exceeded Army quality and standards,” said Royce Kennedy, Director of Logistics. “I am very proud they are being recognized by the Department of Defense.”

All team members have been recognized as outstanding warehousemen and experts in DoD packaging knowledge.

One of the contributing factors to earning the award was that Fort Stewart was selected as the Army Stock Readiness pilot program test site September 2003 to May 2004.

The test gathered information about packaging discrepancies from material

turned in to installation DOLs and the cost to repackage items to Army standards.

It revealed labor and material cost to repackage discrepant supplies to Army standards was less than 1 percent of the total packaging price.

Based on the Fort Stewart test, many of the program’s initiatives were fielded Army-wide.

The Fort Stewart Packaging team has used LEAN Six Sigma, a management approach that identifies and eliminates sources of waste in order to increase pro-

ductivity.

Some of the Fort Stewart packaging efficiency savings include: recycling centers for packaging material, developing the priority packaging center where high-priority requirements are processed in less than 24 hours and standardized “up-front” material packaging to improve customer response time and better use of storage space.

“This award is just another example of the excellent quality of support that the DOL strives to provide our customers,” Kennedy said.

NOVEMBER 2006

Cardon receives star

Spc. Ben Hutto
3rd BCT Public Affairs

Col. (P) Edward Cardon, 3rd Infantry Division, assistant division commander - support, was promoted to brigadier general Nov. 20 at Fort Stewart's Cottrell Field, as part of Marne Week festivities celebrating the 3rd Inf. Div.'s 89th birthday.

Cardon, who recently served as the first commander of the 4th Brigade Combat Team during the unit's deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom III, took over as 3rd Inf. Div. assistant division commander - support earlier in June 2006.

"It's not just a great day for (Cardon); it's a great day for the Army," said Command Sgt. Maj. John Calpena, Command Sergeant Major of the 3rd Inf. Div. "He has spent a lot of time and energy taking care of Soldiers, preparing them for combat, preparing their families for future deployment and looking after their needs. He's the right guy for this job."

Gen. Dan K. McNeill, Commander of US Army Forces Command, spoke at Cardon's ceremony and had high praise for the newly

minted general.

"I'm proud that he is in this division," McNeill said. "We are asking a lot of our Marne Division Soldiers and families for a future deployment down range, but I have no doubt that he will do the country proud. I speak for the United States of America when I say that I'm extremely proud of what he has done and what he will do."

Cardon took the podium and used most of his speech to explain his command philosophy for everyone in attendance.

"Some things just don't change — it's about service. Service that makes great teams and allows us to succeed," Cardon said.

The general was also very complimentary to the role his family played in his success.

"Behind every successful person is a strong family and I feel blessed by mine," Cardon said.

Before the new ADC-S left the podium, he reminded his Soldiers how excited he was about his new job and reiterated his commitment to them.

"I'm proud to be here and to work for you and your success," Cardon said.



Spc. Ben Hutto

Brig. Gen. Edward Cardon, 3rd Inf. Div. assistant division commander — support, receives his one-star flag from his daughter, Susan, during his promotion ceremony Nov. 20.

Vanguard Soldiers celebrate opening of 4th Bde Barracks

OCTOBER 2006

Spc. Dan Balda
4th BCT PAO

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Oct. 30 to celebrate the opening of the new 4th Brigade Combat Team barracks.

The first phase consists of seven buildings designed to house 336 Soldiers assigned to 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, said Maj. Kim Peoples, the 4th BCT engineer.

These are the first barracks constructed

on Fort Stewart designed in accordance with the "1 Plus 1" standard design.

This new standard provides separate sleeping quarters with individually controlled air conditioning and heating systems, walk-in closets, kitchens and washers and dryers in each room.

The 2006 Army Game Plan lays down several over-arching strategies for the future of the Army.

Two of these strategies directly relate to why the barracks were built: to sustain an all-volunteer force and provide infrastructure and support, said Col. Thomas James, 4th BCT commander.

"We are to match the quality of life that our Soldiers enjoy to the quality of service they provide to our nation," James said. "These barracks illustrate this strategy and are another sign of our senior leadership in the Army, this division, this installation and their commitment to the Soldiers quality of life, especially here at Fort Stewart."

James said he struggled with finding the words to properly describe the new barracks.

Borrowing from the 3/7 Inf. motto,

"Damn Fine Soldiers," he settled on "Damn Fine Buildings" — much to the delight of the Soldiers present.

Sgt. Wesley Vanbruaene, the barracks NCOIC, was excited for the event because not only was he in charge of the buildings, he was also going to live there.

He was primarily excited about the individual rooms having their own doors.

In Vanbruaene's old barracks room there was one large room with a divider between the two Soldiers who shared it.

"It's like an actual apartment," he marveled.

As an NCO, he was also excited for his Soldiers' well-being.

"I think the whole place will be great because if my Soldiers are happy, they are going to perform better," Vanbruaene said. "The guys are ecstatic; they want to move in now. They keep coming to me asking when are we going to move."

Pvt. Jericho Yumul, a mortarman assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3/7 Inf., put it simply, "(These new barracks) are awesome!"



Spc. Dan Balda

Col. Thomas James, 4th BCT commander, 4th BCT Command Sergeant Major Louis Torres, Brig. Gen. Edward Cardon, 3rd Inf. Div. assistant division commander - support, 3rd Inf. Div. Command Sergeant Major John Calpena and Pvt. Jericho Yumul, 3/7 Inf. mortarman, cut the ceremonial ribbon for the new 4th BCT barracks

Stewart Freedom Walk boosts spirits on 9/11

Pat Young
Frontline Staff

Soldiers and families of the 3rd Infantry Division, representatives from the installation, the City of Hinesville and Liberty County and more than 1,000 other guests displayed their unity Sept. 10 at twilight on the fifth anniversary of Sept. 11, 2001 with a commemorative walk.

The walk is part of the national America Supports You campaign, where Freedom Walks are held in communities across the nation. The event honors the Soldiers, veterans, and first responders who gave their lives in service on 9/11 and every day since in the Global War on Terrorism.

Individuals and groups began their solemn trek on Stewart's Warrior's Walk, a grove of memorial Eastern Redbud trees that honor the 316 Soldiers who gave their lives in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Retired Army Sgt. 1st Class Joel Jacobs, who lost his leg in service with the 92nd Engineer Battalion in Iraq, came out to Warriors Walk to support the Freedom Walk.

"I walk Warriors Walk every day," Jacobs said. "It gives you perspective of what you've done and what you're going to do. And why

you've done it. This represents the sacrifices of not just our Soldiers, but our police, fire and emergency responders. It represents the sacrifice that makes our country great. To see people come out and support the event allows us to keep doing what we're doing. It gives it meaning."

Freedom Walk participants came from a cross section of the community that included police officers, firemen, emergency service technicians, Soldiers, veterans, civilians and family members.

Tom Ratcliffe, Hinesville's mayor, said the 316 Soldiers who lost their lives in service to the country in Iraq, were community members, neighbors and friends who would be missed.

He reflected back to Sept. 11, 2001 and noted how they shared the same spirit of selfless service and sacrifice displayed by the emergency responders and civilians on that day.

"I'm reminded that the Book, teaches us that there is no greater love that any man may have -- that he would choose to lay down his life for his neighbor, for his friend," Ratcliffe said. "I'm reminded that it is that same spirit that brings us here this evening. Tonight's walk helps us draw closer if just for a short

time to allow us to reflect on the sacrifices on all who wear the uniform."

Following Ratcliffe, the 3rd Infantry Division Chief of Staff Col. Mark McKnight who is the son of a firefighter told participants how he didn't want to forget his vivid memories of Sept. 11, 2001.

"Just like my parent's generation, who will not forget Pearl Harbor, I do not want to forget the events of Sept. 11, 2001," McKnight said. "I will never forget the innocent men, women and children who lost their lives purely for the fact they were Americans. I will never forget the families of the Sept. 11 victims. They will never know the love of lost fathers, mothers, sons, daughters, brothers and sisters. I will never forget the brave men and women who responded that day. Sacrificing their lives and their safety to rescue, save and finally recover their fellow Americans. I will never forget the men and women of our Armed Forces who have fallen in the Global War on Terrorism. I will never forget the men and women of our police, fire and emergency services who stand vigilant and ready every day to protect our homeland. And finally I will never forget, until the enemies of our country are defeated, they will try again to attack our families, our nation, and our way of life."



Photo by Pat Young

Freedom Walk participants unfurl the flag during the festivities Sept. 10.

SEPTEMBER 2006

Hail the 'Battle Boars,' farewell 3/15th

Sgt. Lina Satele
2nd Bde Public Affairs

The 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment was re-flagged to 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment Sep. 6 at a ceremony held at Marne Garden.



Photo by Sgt. Lina Satele

Soldiers look on as Lt. Col. Ken Adgie, commander for 3rd Bn., 15th Inf. and Col. Terry R. Ferrell 2nd BCT commander, uncase the 1st Bn., 30th Inf. regimental colors.

The 3/15 Inf. commander, Lt. Col. Ken Adgie, said he understands the change is to meet the Army's needs.

"As part of the lineage of the 3rd Inf. Div. the Center of Military Heraldry in Washington D.C. recommended to the Army leadership that the 30th Inf. Regiment stay in the 3rd Inf. Div." Adgie said.

The unit traces its lineage to 1798, when it was organized to fight France. Most recently the battalion has successfully deployed in support of full spectrum of combat operations supporting the 3rd Inf. Div. Most recently it deployed with the 3rd Brigade Combat Team in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom III.

"As a result of the re-designation, the 3/15th Inf. Regiment will be placed into the inactive roll," Adgie said. "All of its historical items however, will be sent to 1st Bn. 15th Inf. Regiment in Fort Benning Ga. for safe keeping in what is known as the China Room."

The monuments, around the 3/15 Inf. area on Stewart dedicated to the heroes of the unit will not be touched. Those monuments include their motor-pool which was dedicated in honor of Staff Sgt. Robert A. Stever, and Marshall Field, named after Sgt. 1st Class John W. Marshall

who both died during Operation Iraqi Freedom I.

Other historical items will be kept at the Stewart museum.

The 15th Inf. was initially organized on July 16, 1798 in response to conflict with France.

Much of the 15th Inf. tradition comes from the 26 years in China where it earned its "Can Do" motto.

"The Army continues to move forward," said Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph D. Altman, 3-15th Inf. Command. "The re-flagging is just a small part of that change that's what makes the Army what it is today."

Marching under a different guidon will be new to the Soldiers of 3-15th Inf. as their call sign will change from "CHINA" to "BATTLE-BOARS".

"Our mission will not change whatsoever. Of course we will be saddened as many of our Soldiers say farewell to the 'CAN DO' battalion but we're strengthened by the knowledge that the regiment will remain represented in the 3rd Infantry Division through the 1st Bn., 15th Inf. Regiment," Adgie said. "We're approaching the change with a positive attitude and the professionalism that will make both these regiments proud."

In memory of ... Sgt 1st Class Paul Ray Smith

Ship christened for 3rd Inf Div MoH recipient

Special to The Frontline

3rd Infantry Division Soldiers teamed up with the Navy and participated in the christening and launching of the nation's first Littoral Combat Ship, Freedom (LCS 1), at the Marinette Marine Shipyard in Wisconsin, Sept. 23.

Birgit Smith is the ship's sponsor. She is the widow of Sgt. 1st Class Paul Ray Smith, who was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for bravery and gallantry above and beyond the call of duty in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Birgit gave the ship the wedding bands from both her husband and herself — a symbol of the love and "absolute strength and bond we shared." She also gave the St. Christopher medal her husband wore with his dog tags. The mementos are now part of the ship's mast.

Adm. Mike Mullen, chief of Naval Operations, noted that ships "really do take on the spirit of their sponsor. And I for one will take great comfort that when Freedom's crews sail into harm's way, your quiet strength will go with them," Mullen said to Birgit.

The culmination of the ceremony came when Mrs. Smith shattered a bottle of champagne across the bow of the ship. Onlookers held their breath as the ship made a dramatic side launch into the

Army and the Navy if you will, on this important endeavor," he said. "What we're trying to do is recognize a magnificent, true patriot, Americans like Sergeant First Class Paul R. Smith. And to have Mrs. Smith as a sponsor of this magnificent war fighting vessel, shows the conductivity between the Army and the Navy."

The 377-foot Freedom is capable of speeds in excess of 40 knots and can operate in water less than 20 feet deep.

The ship will act as a platform for

launch and recovery of manned and unmanned vehicles. Its modular design will support interchangeable mission packages, allowing the ship to be reconfigured for antisubmarine warfare, mine warfare or surface warfare missions on an as-needed basis.

On behalf of the 3rd Inf. Div., Lynch presented a gift in honor of Sgt. 1st Class Smith to the prospective commanding officers of the future-USS Freedom, Commanders Michael Doran and Donald Gabrielson, for placement on the new ship. Lynch also commented on future missions the Army and Navy might undertake with the new ship.

"We have now evolved to a true joint war fighting capability," said Lynch. "As we think through things we think through them through a joint perspective. So there's an Army component to a joint force and a Navy component to a joint force and I can see us all working together, or I can envision Army elements coming aboard this ship to be transported to a significant operation in the near future."

Freedom will continue to undergo outfitting and testing at Marinette Marine until it is commissioned in 2007 and eventually homeported in San Diego, Calif.

Also honored Saturday was Sgt. Jeffrey Vorpahl of Green Bay, Wis., of the Wisconsin National Guard, who was presented the Purple Heart by Lynch.

Vorpahl, 29, was wounded on July 24, 2006 by a roadside bomb explosion while on convoy duty near Talill, Iraq. It was his unit's last mission before their redeployment from Iraq. Vorpahl's father, Jack, helped build the Freedom so the day was special for the both of them.

AUGUST 2006

Florida school re-named in honor of Marne hero



Master Sgt. David Abrams

With the image of his father, Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith, looming in the background, David Smith looks at the Medal of Honor during a ceremony dedicating a Holiday, Fla., middle school in the 3rd Infantry Division NCO's honor Aug. 25. David is a seventh-grader at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Middle School.

Editor's note: The Fort Stewart education center was also recently named after Smith.



Jimmy McSalters

Birgit Smith, widow of Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith, christens Freedom (LCS 1) with the traditional smashing of a champagne bottle across the ship's bow.

Tankers pursue insurgent leader in exercise

SEPTEMBER 2006

Spc. Ricardo Branch
1st BCT Public Affairs

Sgt. David West and his team arrive shortly before dawn to a small Iraqi village simply referred to as Objective Dog West.

They sit inside their Bradley and watch the town that lies just outside the wire, and wait for daybreak to start their mission.

They seem almost calm as they chat among themselves, checking weapons and ensuring their gear is ready for the operation.

However, their ease is actually a professional detachment, a cool reserve which serves them as they once again prepare to embark on another squad

training exercise lane.

The team is comprised of Soldiers from companies C and A, 3rd Battalion, 69th Armor, who conducted a cordon and search mission Sept. 25 during the 1st Brigade Combat Team mission readiness exercise at Fort Stewart.

"Today we were tasked with capturing an Anti-Iraqi Forces leader who has been supplying all the logistics for the insurgents inside our area of operations," said West, a squad leader with Co. A, 3-69 Armor.

West said the training is crucial for the battalion because they have many new Soldiers who have never been deployed or performed a cordon and search training

exercise before.

During the training, the Soldiers cordoned off the objective with Bradleys, Abrams tanks, and humvees then moved in with their dismount teams to capture Ahmeer Adham Al Tamimi – the local AIF leader.

"This training is vital not only for our new Soldiers but for all leaders as well because you always get something out of training even in the after action report you can always learn something new," West said.

He said he took situational awareness out of the exercise because at one point the interpreter was injured and the information wasn't relayed down to everyone.

"Our interpreter went

down early on because there was no one readily available to protect him," he said. "It's important to know where your interpreter is at all times and keep him protected because a situation can quickly become a mess."

West said that despite the hardship with coming to the field the best part of conducting cordon and search training is mentoring the junior Soldiers.

"Just knowing that you can pass something on to the Soldiers here without drawing it on a board is gratifying," he said. "We all know that eventually we'll be going back to Iraq soon so having this opportunity to help a Soldier is great."

Capt. Justin Colbert, Co. C

commander, said now with this training completed the unit will be prepared to conduct better strategic operations in the next Operation Iraqi Freedom rotation.

"This training was very important for the ability of our Soldiers to conduct operations in the midst of an Iraqi population," he said. "You have to be able to do these missions without offending, or harming them which is critical to rebuilding the Iraqi government."

Colbert said the Soldiers learned a lot in the mission, which tested their ability to react to civilian demonstrations, weapons caches, direct and indirect fire and booby traps.

"Even though this may have not been like a typical day in Iraq, it did help develop the flexibility and adaptability that we need in our Soldiers to accomplish the mission," he said.

"This was great training," said Pvt. Ryan Rowswell. "This was the first time many of us have done this kind of training in a semi real world environment."

He said having to clear a target from a town while taking small-arms fire and calming a whole city was exciting.

"This is the everyday thing we'll be doing in Iraq," Rowswell said. "I'm glad we got this because we need to know how to do this to the T."

3ID honors fallen at Warrior's Walk

OCTOBER 2006



Pat Young

1st Lt. Megan Maimone, HHD, 395th Military Police Battalion, stands post at Warrior's Walk during a tree dedication ceremony in honor 1st Lt. Ashley Huff, former 3rd Platoon leader, 549th Military Police Company.

Pat Young
Frontline Staff

Soldiers, family and friends of 1st Lt. Ashley Huff, 3rd Platoon, 549th Military Police Company, gathered Oct. 12 at Fort Stewart's Warrior Walk at a tree dedication ceremony in her honor.

A Eastern Redbud tree, and granite stone was placed at the walk in memory of the 23-year old native of Covington, Louisiana whose life and two-year, four-month active military service ended with her making the ultimate sacrifice while on duty in Iraq in the Global War on Terrorism.

The solemn words of the 3rd Inf. Div. Chaplain, Lt. Col Harlon Triplett, touched more than a hundred people who attended the ceremony - to pay respect to their fallen leader, Soldier, friend, daughter, wife.

"Father, as we stand on this holy ground, in this sacred grove we pause to reflect on, and to remember our fallen sisters and brothers-in-arms," Triplett said. "We remember their loyalty to the nation and dedication to their fellow soldiers and their courage and heroism."

Huff, recently married, was serving with the 549th Military Police with duty in Iraq training and equipment the Iraqi Police near Irbil. Scheduled to return home in two months,

Huff's life was claimed by a vehicle-bourne improvised explosive device.

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, 3rd Inf. Div. commanding general, met with Huff's parents, spouse, co-workers and friends at the ceremony and shared his thoughts.

"This is a hallowed place. Here stands 317 living monuments to fallen heroes," Lynch said. "Warrior's walk honors their courage with an enduring love. I'm humbled to speak of a great person, a great soldier and a great leader."

Lynch spoke of how Huff was loved not only by her parents and

husband, but by her Soldiers who she served beside. He spoke of how she took up a worthy and noble duty. A service that she knew was dangerous, yet faced the challenge with high spirits.

The unveiling of the granite marker stirred emotions of those in attendance as did the words of the commanding general as he spoke about the grove.

"Young and old, Soldiers and civilians alike will walk these paths, they will pause and read her name," Lynch said. "They will read her name and reflect upon her sacrifice she made for freedom."

1st Lt. Bryan Dougherty, 546th Military Police Company, Executive Officer spoke of serving with Huff as a fellow platoon leader in the 549th MP Co. He told how she cared for Soldiers and always displayed a positive attitude.

"She set the example for us platoon leaders to follow," Dougherty said. "She empowered her non-commissioned officers to take care of Soldiers and did the same at her level too. As a person she was fun loving. She was an avid Georgia Bull Dogs fan. She made that perfectly clear to everybody - especially during football season."

Dougherty recalled with a sorrowed smile not only how she would tease everyone when the Bull Dogs won, but how her enthusiasm was contagious.

"When she was working, it didn't matter the time of day, she would always have a smile on her face," Dougherty said. She would always say "I love being a platoon leader." When the rest of us were feeling bad, she lifted our spirits with her enthusiasm."

(Editor's Note: The 3rd Infantry Division will hold a tree dedication ceremony for Staff Sgt. John Hartman Jr., B Battery, 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Division Jan. 18 at Warrior Walk. Hartman died Nov. 30 in Baghdad from of injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his humvee during combat operations.)

549th MP Co Soldier awarded Silver Star

JULY 2006



Courtesy photo

Spc. Terry Fuller-Young, 549th MP Co. is presented the Silver Star July 24 by Lt. Gen. Peter Chiarelli, Multi-National Corps - Iraq commander.

Special to The Frontline

In Iraq July 24, Spc. Terry Fuller-Young, 549th Military Police Company, Fort Stewart, was presented the Silver Star by Lt. Gen. Peter Chiarelli, Multi-National Corps-Iraq commander, for gallantry in action.

Young earned the award for his actions which saved the lives of his fellow comrades and prevented catastrophe. Young was serving with the Al Zuhoor Iraqi Police Station April 22 when Anti-Iraqi Forces launched a coordinated attack on the station.

Young's squad arrived earlier that day to meet with members of the station's police chief and arranged a security perimeter facing nearby road intersections.

Once security was established, the team went in to meet with the Al Zahour Police Chief. When the team was leaving Young noticed the street was clear of pedestrians and thought that it was out of place. He then noticed a red four-door vehicle traveling on one of the routes toward them. When the vehicle was identified as a threat, the Military Police gunner standing security, Private 1st Class Joshua Gorrell, engaged the vehicle with well aimed disabling shots.

When the vehicle continued on its path, Gorrell engaged the driver mortally wounding him.

The vehicle was driven by a suicide bomber, which carried an improvised explosive device. The vehicle detonated between the two front security vehicles, approximately

5 meters from Young.

Mortars, rocket-propelled grenades and a heavy sustained-barrage of precision small arms fire followed the explosion. Young's gunner was knocked down and couldn't get back up.

Young exited the vehicle and found the squad MEDIC who was wounded, lying on the ground next to the vehicle. Young helped Gorrell from the vehicle and moved the injured MEDIC to the safety of a nearby bunker.

With Gorrell providing security at the bunker, Young once again maneuvered his way through the relentless attack back to another MP vehicle to assist with the evacuation of another three-man team.

Once all the wounded Soldiers were safe within the Iraqi Police Station, Young noticed a blazing fire from a burning fuel tank which was quickly moving towards another military police vehicle.

The gunner for the third vehicle was unable to drop from the turret and move the vehicle. Young went back out and moved the vehicle - preventing it from being engulfed in flames.

Young then assisted the squad to load the wounded Soldiers so they could get medical treatment.

"Spc Terry J. Fuller-Young is a sterling example of Military Police training," said Lt. Col. Donna Martin, Commander, 385th Military Police Battalion. "His actions epitomize the training and discipline of the Military Police of the 3rd Infantry Division. We're very proud of him."



Photos by Sgt. Lorenda Morris

1st Bn., 76th FA Regiment Soldiers shoot cannons in salute during the 3rd Inf. Divi. Fires Brigade inactivation ceremony held May 12 at Fort Stewart.

Marne Thunder inactivates

May 2006

Sgt. Lorenda M. Morris
3rd Sustainment Bde. Public Affairs

Division Fires Brigade Soldiers stood silently on Cottrell Field here, and witnessed the turning of a new page in the history of 3rd Infantry Division. With the sheathing of their unit's colors at a deactivation ceremony May 12, DFB marked the end of their service to the division that began with their constitution as 3rd Division Artillery in 1917 at Camp Stanley, Texas.

"For 89 years, the 3rd Division Artillery has been providing the precision effects of indirect fires to the Soldiers of the Marne Division, Marne Thunder, we called them," said General William G. Webster, former 3rd Inf. Div. commander.

Marne Thunder served with the division in nine campaigns during World War II, eight campaigns in the Republic of Korea, stood as the division's frontline of defense in Europe and more recently

in campaigns in the Middle East.

The inactivation came about as a part of the new Army Modularity Initiative, said Command Sgt. Major Chester Colbert, Jr., 1st Battalion, 39th Field Artillery, DFB command sergeant major. The DIVARTY has been broken up and reassigned to maneuverable brigade. He added that 1st Battalion, 41st Artillery would be assigned to 1st Brigade. 1st Battalion, 9th Field Artillery would be assigned to 2nd Brigade. The 1st Battalion, 10th Field Artillery would be assigned to 3rd Brigade and 1st Battalion, 76th Field Artillery Regiment would go to 4th Brigade.

"A lot of the 13-series soldiers have been moved to other installations while many of the low-density soldiers have been reassigned to other units," Colbert said. "I think we must deal with changes. The DIVARTY has gone away and we must be adaptable. As an artilleryman, it's hard to see it go."



Col. Robert D. Grymes, Division Fires Brigade commander, leads his Soldiers forward for the sheathing of the unit's colors during an inactivation ceremony held May 12 on Cottrell Field.

Brigade rallies to new colors

June 2 2006

Sgt. Lorenda M. Morris
3rd Sust. Bde. Staff

The boom of cannon fire sounded and thick clouds of smoke rolled over Marne

Garden.

The salute marked the opening of a ceremony that would provide a new rallying point for the Soldiers of 3rd Sustainment Brigade.



Sgt. Lorenda M. Morris

Col. Brian R. Layer, former 3rd Sust. Bde., commander, addresses the audience at Marne Garden June 2, during a ceremony where the DSB reflags to the 3rd Sustainment Bde.

At the reflagging ceremony held June 2, 3rd Sust. Bde. unveiled new unit colors.

The brigade was reflagged as a result of the Army's Modularity Initiative, said Lt. Col. Leona C. Knight, future officer in charge for 3rd Sust. Bde.

Traditionally, unit colors serve as a rallying point for its Soldiers. The colors are a symbol of pride, tradition and history of a unit.

Reflagging, which began in 1950 with 6th Infantry Division, is a tradition that changes a unit's colors.

The Army has been changing for a long time, Knight said.

This reflagging somewhat symbolizes all of that change for this brigade, she said.

"Today we change our colors, but the thread that matters is not stitched into that silk, but woven into our hearts," said Col. Brian R. Layer, former 3rd Sust. Bde., commander, as he addressed the ceremony audience.

"Today, we not only announce the transformation of our brigade with the change of our colors and patch, but we also celebrate the culture, the values, and the legacy we pass from generation to

generation," said Layer.

Since its original constitution as Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment in July 1957, the unit has undergone four redesignations, while still providing logistical support to the 3rd Infantry Division.

The unit has been known by several names to include headquarters and Headquarters Detachment; Headquarters, Headquarters and Band; Headquarters and Headquarters Company and Band; 3rd Infantry Division Support Command; Division Support Brigade; 3rd Support Brigade and most recently 3rd Sustainment Brigade.

The brigade's service goes back as far as World War II. The unit served in France, Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsce, Central Europe, Asiatic-Pacific Theater, the Persian Gulf War and most recently in the nation's Iraqi campaigns.

As the ceremony concluded, Soldiers watched as the old colors were removed from the field.

"We want our Soldiers to remember their Dogface ancestry," said Layer. "The legacy won't be cased with the old colors, but will stiffen with the new."

DoD lauds Army environmental programs, Stewart/Hunter save millions

JULY 2006

Special to the Frontline

The United States Army Installation Management Activity July 5, spotlighted Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield for outstanding environmental stewardship by managing resources and providing programs that enhanced wildlife habitat while improving training conditions.

IMA highlighted Stewart/Hunter's as winning the Secretary of the Army's Environmental Award for Fiscal Year 2005, found in the May/June edition of Public Works Digest.

In a ceremony held May 3, at the Pentagon, Deputy Tad Davis, deputy assistant secretary of the Army for the environment, safety and occupational health, applauded good management practices.

"The Army is committed to good environmental stewardship and the long-term sustainability of its installations," Davis said. "We can't send our Soldiers out to engage in the Global War on Terror without training them as they need to fight, but we don't have to sacrifice the environment to provide that training."

The Secretary of the Army Environmental Awards represent the highest honor in the field of environ-

mental science conferred by the Army.

"The DPW and the Installation are very excited about winning this award and receiving the recognition that goes along with it," said Thomas Fry, Chief, Environmental Division, Directorate of Public Works. "The award is the result of a lot of hard work by a great team, not just in the DPW Environmental Division, but throughout Fort Stewart/Hunter AAF."

Stewart/Hunter's programs were reviewed by the Environmental Protection Agency, the Bureau of Land Management, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the National Conference of State Legislatures, and environmental management representatives from five states and the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive who served as judges on the award panels.

"We've embraced the Army's Sustainability strategy of supporting the triple bottom line - mission, well-being, and environment. In doing so we sustain the installations' ability to train well into the future," Fry said. "The same excellent team was responsible for Stewart/HAAF earning the Army Community of Excellence award, three consecutive years in a row. I'm proud to be part of this great team."

